

CLAIM AMENDMENTS:

1. (previously presented) A disposable wearing article comprising an absorbent body having opposite front and rear ends and opposite first and second sides extending between the ends, and a pair of right and left primary elastic members attached in their stretched state to a back portion of said absorbent body, wherein each of said primary elastic members has an approximately linear portion in an approximately laterally central zone of said back portion inwardly of the opposite first and second sides keeping such a constant distance from the other primary elastic member as to allow a central zone of a skin-side surface of said absorbent body between said right and left primary elastic members to be formed as a raised portion by an action of a contractile force in said approximately linear portion, and each of said primary elastic members further has at least one divergent portion extending from the approximately linear portion towards at least one of the front and rear ends of the absorbent body and outwardly to define at least one divergent pattern.

Claims 2-7 (canceled).

8. (currently amended) A disposable wearing article comprising a cover sheet, having opposite front and rear ends and opposite first and second sides extending between the ends, an absorbent body attached on a skin-side surface of said cover sheet, and a pair of right and left primary elastic members attached in their stretched state to said cover sheet, wherein each of said primary elastic members has an approximately linear portion in an approximately laterally central zone of said cover sheet inwardly of the opposite first and second sides keeping such a constant distance from the other primary elastic member as to allow a central zone of a skin-side surface of said cover sheet

between said right and left primary elastic members to be formed as a raised portion by an action of a contractile force in said approximately linear portion, and further has at least one divergent portion extending from the approximately linear portion towards at least one of the front and rear ends of the cover sheet and outwardly to define at least one divergent pattern.

Claims 9-11 (canceled).

12. (previously presented) The disposable wearing article of claim 1, wherein the at least one divergent portion comprises a front divergent portion extending from a front end of the linear portion substantially to the front end of the absorbent body.

13. (previously presented) The disposable wearing article of claim 1, wherein the at least one divergent portion comprises a rear divergent portion extending from a rear end of the linear portion substantially to the rear end of the absorbent body.

14. (currently amended) The disposable wearing article of ~~claim~~ claim 1, wherein the at least one divergent portion comprises front and rear divergent portions extending from opposite front and rear ends of the linear portion towards the respective front and rear ends of the absorbent body.

15. (previously presented) The disposable wearing article of claim 8, wherein the at least one divergent portion comprises a front divergent portion extending from a front end of the linear portion substantially to the front end of the cover sheet.

16. (previously presented) The disposable wearing article of claim 8, wherein the at least one divergent portion comprises a rear divergent portion extending from a rear end of the linear portion substantially to the rear end of the cover sheet.

17. (currently amended) The disposable wearing article of ~~claim~~ claim 8, wherein the at least one divergent portion comprises front and rear divergent portions extending from opposite front and rear ends of the linear portion towards the respective front and rear ends of the cover sheet.